IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT Atty. Docket No. (Opt.) BY APPLICANT ZIMM1780 **Applicant** Scott A. Webb **Application Number** Filed 10/633,371 August 1, 2003 For **SPINAL IMPLANT Group Art Unit** Examiner 3733 COMSTOCK, David C. Confirmation Number: 5117 Certification of Transmission Under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22312-Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 1450 via the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Electronic Filing System (EFS-Web) on June 30, 2009. Dear Sir, Applicant respectfully requests, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, that the information listed on the attached SB08A/B form(s) be considered and cited in the examination of the above-identified application. A copy of U.S. Patent(s) and U.S. Patent Application Publication(s) listed on the attached SB08A form is not being submitted with this Information Disclosure Statement pursuant to the waiver of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i) by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. A copy of foreign patent documents as well as the information listed on the attached SB08B form is enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

attached SB08B form is enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted within three months of the filling date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491 in an international application;

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted before the mailing of a first Office action on the merits; or

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted before the mailing of a first Office action after the filling of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114.

Page 2 of 2

| | This I | Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after the period |
|---|---------|---|
| specified in 3 | 7 C.F. | R. § 1.97(b) and before the mailing date of any of a final action under |
| 37 C.F.R. § 1. | .113, a | notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, or an action that otherwise |
| closes prosecution in the application, and is accompanied by one of: | | |
| | | The statement specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e); or |
| | X | The fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). Applicant hereby authorizes the |
| | | Commissioner to deduct the amount of \$180 from Deposit Account No. |
| | | 50-3183 of Sprinkle IP Law Group for the filing fee of this Information |
| | | Disclosure Statement. |
| | This I | nformation Disclosure Statement is being submitted after the period |
| specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) and on or before payment of the issue fee and is accompanied | | |
| by: | | |
| | | The statement specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e); and |
| | | The fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). Applicant hereby authorizes the |
| | | Commissioner to deduct the amount of \$180 from Deposit Account No. |
| | | 50-3183 of Sprinkle IP Law Group for the filing fee of this Information |
| | | Disclosure Statement. |
| | | |

Furthermore, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97(g) and (h), no representation is made that a search has been made or that this information is material to patentability of the present application.

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims of Applicant's above-referenced patent application are patentably distinguishable from the listed information.

Respectfully submitted,

Sprinkle IP Law Group Attorneys for Applicant

Katharina W. Schuster Reg. No. 50,000

Dated: June 30, 2009 1301 W. 25th Street, Suite 408

Austin, Texas 78705 Tel. (512) 637-9220 Fax. (512) 317-9088